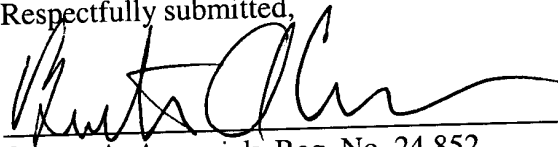


In view of the above, consideration and allowance are, therefore, respectfully solicited.

In the event that the Examiner believes an interview might serve to advance the prosecution of this application in any way, the undersigned attorney is available at the telephone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication including any extension fees to Deposit Account No. 22-0185.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: 4-10-01

**APPENDIX**  
**(Amended Claim)**

22. (Thrice amended) A method of [increasing the insulin sensitivity of a]treating a patient for insulin resistance, said patient having the Metabolic Syndrome, wherein said syndrome comprises Primary Insulin Resistance and abdominal/visceral obesity, wherein said method comprises administering to said patient growth hormone or a functional derivative thereof in an amount effective for decreasing insulin resistance of said patient.